

# **Cooperative Mexican fruit fly Eradication Project**

San Diego County Agriculture Commissioner  
California Department of Food and Agriculture  
United States Department of Agriculture

**To:** Media

**Date:** December 16, 2002

**From:** Public Information Office

**Pages:** One

**Subject:** Information Update for Media.....4 p.m. Final for Monday.

## **Survey**

Two Mexican fruit fly adults were confirmed today. No additional larval sites were confirmed today. Confirmed totals to date: 78 adult flies at 28 sites and 9 larval sites. All of these detections are within the already identified core area.

## **Regulatory**

A map of the official Mexican fruit fly quarantine is available at [www.cdfa.ca.gov](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov) under the "Hot News Items" link. Maps are also available at project office on Valley Center Road. To date, 422 persons have signed compliance agreements. These agreements specify pre-harvest and post-harvest treatments allowing commodities to move in commerce. Hold notices have been placed on properties where adult flies or larvae have been found to prevent the spread of the pest.

## **Treatment**

Nine California Conservation Corps (CCC) crews, under the direction of project personnel, continued removal of fruit at larval properties today. Fruit removal has been completed at five larval sites and continues at the remaining sites. To date, project staff have verified pre-harvest treatments, conducted by growers, on 3153.75 acres in the regulated area.

## **Phonebank**

Residents with questions may call 800-491-1899. The hotline is staffed from 8:00am to 8:00pm.

## **Meetings/Other**

Growers, packers, shippers and others with questions about regulatory requirements may get information or sign compliance agreements to facilitate crop movement at the project headquarters located at the county maintenance yard just off Valley Center Road, near Cole Grade Road. Weekday hours are 8 am to 4 pm. Saturday hours are noon to 4 pm.

News media may reach a project public affairs officer on weekends and after hours by calling the project hotline 1-800-491-1899.